



9105-3/#180109

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#17/19 9/9/12  
9)

In re patent application of: )  
) Before the Examiner  
Samuel M.D. Norville, et al. )  
) K. Lin  
Serial No. 09/585,061 )  
) Group Art Unit 1722  
Filed June 1, 2000 )  
) August 21, 2002  
APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD )  
OF PRODUCING ON-DEMAND )  
SEMI-SOLID MATERIAL FOR )  
CASTINGS )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

August 21, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

James M. Durlacher

Name of Registered Representative

*James M. Durlacher*

Signature

August 21, 2002

Date of Signature

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Box AF

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

Sir:

In response to the FINAL Office Action dated May 9, 2002, please enter the following amendment in the above-identified patent application. A one (1) month extension of time has been requested, extending the deadline for response to and including **September 9, 2002**.

RECEIVED

AUG 29 2002

TC 1700

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 24, 31, 35, 37, and 38 in the following manner:

1. (Twice amended) A method of producing on-demand, semi-solid material for a casting process, said method comprising the following steps:
- heating a metal alloy until it reaches a molten state;

Response After FINAL Action  
Serial No. 09/585,061 Group Art Unit 1722  
Atty. Docket No. 9105-3  
Page 1 of 22

B1  
SVS  
CL